

# *Hurricane Katrina Update* **New Direction**

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## **RADM Bachmann Assumes Command of SPAWAR**

By Maria LoVasco Tolleson  
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Officer

During a ceremony broadcast claimancy wide via video teleconferencing (VTC), RADM Michael C. Bachmann assumed command of SPAWAR Systems Command from Acting SPAWAR Commander, RADM Will Rodriguez. VADM James D. McArthur, Jr., Commander, Naval Network Warfare Command attended via a split screen from the Pentagon and relieved Rodriguez of command and welcomed Bachmann aboard.

Upon assuming command, Bachmann's first order of business was to conduct an Awards Ceremony during which several SSC New Orleans personnel received Lightning Bolt Certificates or SPAWARRIORS of the Quarter Awards.

Dwayne Green, who was present via VTC from SSC New Orleans, was mentioned along with LT Lois Tink as first-time co-recipients of the SPAWARRIOR of the Quarter award for their heroic efforts immediately after Hurricane Katrina to protect Navy property and equipment and to relocate servers to alternate worksites to get SSC New Orleans systems reestablished and functional. The



**If you have information or photos you'd like to submit for consideration in the newsletter please send to [maria.tolleson@navy.mil](mailto:maria.tolleson@navy.mil).**

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# Combined Federal Campaign 2005 Underway

The SSC New Orleans 2005 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is now underway and this year it is on-line. The 2005 campaign was placed on hold due to the displacement of personnel and issues surrounding hurricane recovery. However, personnel were eager to continue the time honored tradition of giving to this remarkable cause.

Unfortunately, CFC was also affected by the hurricanes of 2005 and most of the supplies and donor recognition items were destroyed. But have no fear, with the new on-line option it will be easy for any personnel interested in contributing to do so. On-line giving will also make it feasible for displaced personnel to donate.

The process is quick and easy. Simply, visit [www.cfcgno.org](http://www.cfcgno.org) and select "Make a Donation Online." Registration will be required. During the registration process, your Federal Organization will be requested. Please type in **SPAWAR New Orleans**. On the Account Information screen there will be a drop-down menu asking for your agency. Please select the **"US Navy/USN SPAWAR Information Technology Center."**

Then, donors will have the option to make a pledge to up to three charities. A list of all of the charities in the 2005 campaign is available on the "welcome" page of the CFC web site or donors can search by subject or state. A separate list of Office of Personnel Management (OPM) approved hurricane-related charities is also published on the website. Employees will have two pledging options. The first option is Payroll Deduction where the employee must choose a set amount to be deducted from his or her paycheck each pay period. The second option is a one-time gift via electronic check.

Please remember that the Payroll Deduction Option sets up with an annual donation amount. Payroll deductions will begin on the first pay-day after the payroll office has entered this data into its system. Payroll deductions will not be retroactive to January 2006 and will end on the last paycheck of 2006. Please remember this if you itemize your charitable deductions in 2007.

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## NSPS Training Due Mid-March

The SSC New Orleans will be transitioning to the National Personnel Security System (NSPS). The transition will begin with mandatory training courses provided through Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) e-Learning. The training must be completed by Friday, March 17.

The courses can be found through the NSPS Community area on the NKO site. To access the courses, go to the Navy E-Learning web site (<https://wwwa.nko.navy.mil/>) and select "Advanced Search" under the 'Content' category on the left hand side. Then enter the appropriate code as outlined below.

All managers and supervisors (including military who are assigned as supervisors) must complete "Managing Change" as the first assignment in this training program. The Catalog Code is "sco12\_76f8d9ae."

All non-supervisory civilian personnel must complete "The Paradigm Shift of Change" Catalog Code "PD0333".

Once the training is complete, each person must e-mail or fax the completion certificate to Charnelle Brown at [charnelle.brown@navy.mil](mailto:charnelle.brown@navy.mil). Ms. Brown's fax number is (228) 813-1004 and her voice phone is (228) 813-1039.

# Seeking Hurricane Katrina Stories

By Maria LoVasco Tolleson  
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Officer

Here we are nearly six months removed from the history-defining events of last summer, and only now can some of us look back and begin to process what we've been through and how it has changed the path that we thought we were on prior to Hurricane Katrina.

The same can be said of our command. Our mission continues to be accomplished by dedicated employees in locations as disparate as trailers in a wounded city, buildings nestled in snow, offices near a sunny beach, or leased spaces in a traffic-congested community.

Ours is just one story of thousands being experienced by organizations throughout the Gulf Coast, but it is a story unique to us, and it is a story that needs to be captured as part of our on-going and dynamic history.

The Public Affairs Office (PAO) is going to begin compiling a history of what our command and our employees went through during and after Hurricane Katrina. Please consider sharing your experience and your pictures with us - the good, the bad and the ugly. While our experiences may have similar themes of loss and struggle and triumph, no two stories will be alike.

There is no particular format for submissions. It can be a journal entry, a letter, a poem, a story, photographs, annotated newspapers, receipts, menus or whatever else seems appropriate. The ultimate form this memoir will take is still too soon to tell. After all, our recovery - both as a command and as individuals, is still an unfolding story.

# Hurricane Recovery Fair

Area military and Department of Defense (DoD) civilians and their families will have an opportunity to meet with personnel from relief agencies, financial institutions, and counseling services on March 14.

The Fleet and Family Support Center, Community Support Center, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation are sponsoring two hurricane recovery fair from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Naval Support Activity (NSA) Fairwinds Club in Algiers.

Information will be available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, the Personnel Support Detachment (PSD), Housing, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Better Business Bureau, the Small Business Administration, the United Way, the Chaplain, Child Care, Navy Federal Credit Union, Credit Counseling, Tricare and much more.

## Mail Delivery Returns to SSC NOLA

The delivery of all incoming SSC New Orleans command mail has resumed. There are still no provisions in place for outgoing mail. Incoming mail will be sorted by trailer and alternate worksite location. It will then be available for pick-up at the SSC New Orleans facilities in Trailer 1. Please appoint a runner to go to Trailer 1 daily to pick up any mail for your occupants.

Mail for personnel currently working at the Pensacola, Florida; Millington, Tennessee; and Fort Worth, Texas sites will be held until those personnel return to SSC New Orleans. If a government check arrives for you, you will be contacted.



# SSC NOLA Building Restoration

By Maria LoVasco Tolleson, SSC NOLA Public Affairs Officer



(left) It's hot and dirty work as a worker melts tar that will be siphoned up a tube attached to the side of Building 2. The boom then pours tar onto the roof like batter in a cake pan.



(left) A freshly tarred roof dries in the late morning sun. The tar permeates the surrounding environment with the throat-burning smell of creosote.

(below) Down below a crane lowers the bucket of debris. The scraped-off roof and other scrap are lowered in a meticulous and tedious fashion that requires diligence, caution, and lots of time.



(left) Affixed to the side of Building 2, this chute serves an easy, fast way for debris to be slid down into a dumpster below. It also looks like fun.



(above) Belo Contractors fill a bucket attached to a crane with debris from atop Building 3.





# SSC NOLA Personnel Move into Building 1



(left) Bill Anderson, SSC New Orleans Administrative Officer, moves into his new cubicle in Bldg. 1. He returned from Pensacola along with the rest of the Administrative Division to work out of former APOGEN spaces until his department's area is ready for reoccupancy in Bldg. 2.

(bottom right) Keith Richardson is already at work in his bare cubicle in Bldg. 1. Richardson works maintenance for the Reserve Headquarters System (RHS).

(bottom left) Debbie Mitchell, left, and Justine Gunday, right, are cubicle neighbors on the third floor of their temporary quarters in Bldg. 1. Approximately 35 personnel with wireless NMCI access will be working out of the facility. Other returning personnel from Millington, Pensacola and Fort Worth will be working out of vacated spaces in the trailers, from NAS Belle Chasse, DISA in Slidell, the Stennis Space Center and the Port.



## CFC Underway (continued)

When donors get to the "Thank You" page, they will be asked to print out, sign, and turn in the contribution summary to YN2(SW) Kendra Pitts of the SSC New Orleans Administrative Department. This form can be faxed to (850) 452-2510 or mailed to:

YN2(SW) Kendra D. Pitts  
SPAWARSSYSCEN NEW ORLEANS  
NETC NAS Pensacola FL  
210 West Avenue, Suite A  
Pensacola, FL 32508-3135

This summary needs to be turned in to start the payroll deductions. This form is only needed if the Payroll Deduction Option is elected.

The 2005 campaign will end on **March 13**. If you plan to give, please act right away.

Since the donor recognition items were also destroyed in last year's storms, donors will receive recognition items that have been donated from CFCs throughout the United States. There will be something for every donor. However, due to cost, the lighter items will be shipped to donors residing outside of New Orleans.

Thank you in advance for your donations and support of this campaign. Please contact YN2(SW) Kendra Pitts at [Kendra.pitts@navy.mil](mailto:Kendra.pitts@navy.mil), or (850) 452-4001 if you have any questions.

## **Bachmann Assumes Command of SPAWAR (continued)**

SSC New Orleans Information Assurance and Network Security Team was included in a Lightning Bolt award awarded to SPAWAR Code 08 for their efforts surrounding the Information Assurance stand-down on November 29, 2005.

During his remarks, Bachmann said that the Naval NETWAR FORCEnet Enterprise (NNFE) would be a major contributor to the attainment of the CNO's (Chief of Naval Operations) 2006 Objectives. "From winning the global war on terrorism, to developing closer working relationships with the U.S. Coast Guard and other governmental and non-governmental organizations, to becoming leaders of change and innovation, the NNFE is committed to bringing the CNO objectives to fruition," he said.

He stated that SPAWAR must be positioned to support the Navy's future. "The importance of C4ISR, Space and business applications is critical, both now and to the future of the Navy. At the same time our Navy's challenge will be to operate with fewer resources, but with increasing pressure to improve efficiency," he said.

He outlined several ways in which he hopes to position SPAWAR as a world-class organization. By demonstrating to the Navy's leadership the relevancy and advantages C4ISR and Space brings to the warfighter by providing clear, empirical test data to support that position; by ensuring the technological prowess of the

SPAWAR organization by demonstrating that the mix of civil service, military, and contractor personnel staffing and grade levels are optimized for supporting the Navy's mission; by continuing to focus on adopting best business practices that deliver ever-improving value to the customers and improves the overall organizational performance; and by working with the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, Acquisition, the PEOs, NAVSEA and NAVAIR Warfare Centers to look for opportunities to bring FORCEnet constructs to reality across weapons systems and in support of the warfighters.

Bachmann is no stranger to SPAWAR having commanded the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command's Naval Tactical Command Support System (NTCSS) in the mid-90s. Under his leadership, NTCSS, a Department of Defense ACAT I program, was selected into the Secretary of the Navy Acquisition Hall of Fame in April 1998, nominated for the Office of the Secretary of Defense Packard Award, and awarded the OSD Certificate for Acquisition Excellence.

"Returning after eight years, it is no surprise that networks are now considered an indispensable necessity for daily fleet operations," he said. "And today our PEOs and labs are delivering FORCEnet capabilities that allow our warfighters, joint, and coalition partners the ability to rapidly respond to virtually any threat around the globe. We are truly, 'Transforming Information into Decisive Effects'."

## ***Important Numbers and Web Sites***

- Navy Global Distance Support Center (to update your location and contact information), 1-877-418-6824, Option 2 or [www.anchordesk.navy.mil](http://www.anchordesk.navy.mil)
- BUPERS 24-hour Helpline, 1-877-414-5358
- Safe Haven Orders, 1-866-239-0303
- 24-hour Support Hotline, 1-800-677-5327
- SSC NOLA Executive Officer, 1-850-452-5810
- Per Diem Rates <https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/perdiemrates.html>
- FEMA, 1-800-621-3362 or [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)
- Red Cross, [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)
- DOD Civilian Personnel Management Service: Hurricane Information for DOD Civilian Employees and Annuitants, <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/hurricaneinfo/index.htm>
- Civilian Employee Assistance Program, 1-800-677-LEAP
- Federal Tax Relief, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), select "help for hurricane victims"
- Guidance for Navy and Marine Corps Personnel in Hurricane Disaster Areas - <http://taskforcenavyfamily.navy.mil/Content/RecoveringFromADisaster-Final.pdf>